



Fire Investigations

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU? Rick Batza, Chief Investigator







- State Fire Investigators respond to requests from local fire or law enforcement officials.
- Primary functions are to perform origin/cause determinations and to prosecute arson and related crimes.
- Fully trained fire investigators and law featorcement officers.











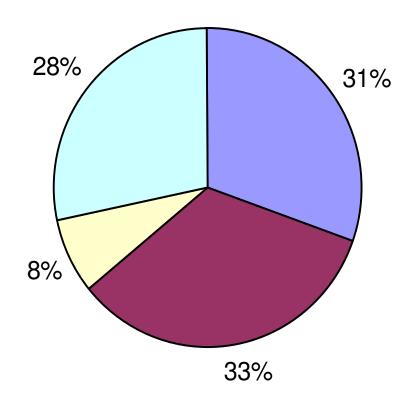
- IC 36-8-17-7
- Fire investigations; notice of crime; report; powers
 of fire department; subpoenas; discovery orders
 Sec. 7. (a) A fire department shall investigate and
 determine the causes and circumstances
 surrounding each fire occurring within the territory
 served by the fire department. The fire department
 shall begin the investigation when the fire occurs.



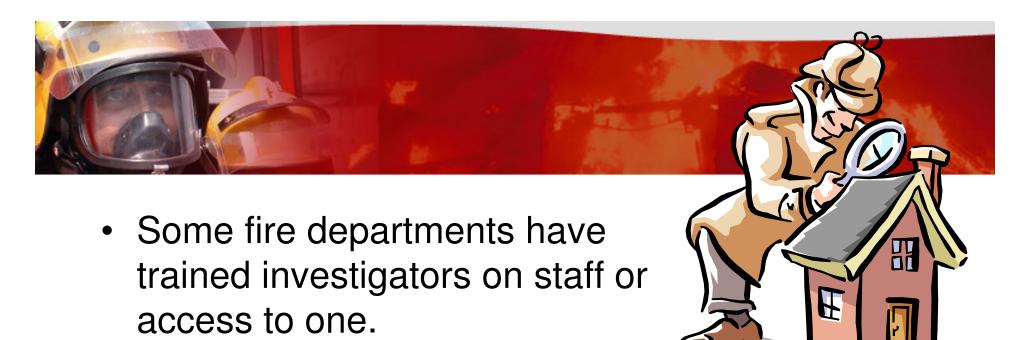




FIRE INVESTIGATIONS 2010



- ACCIDENTAL
- INCENDIARY
- OTHER
- UNDETERMINED



 We are more than happy to work as a team with others. Two heads are better than one especially in complex fires.





Local Judicial System

- We recommend that you learn what makes up your local system.
- Consult not only with local law enforcement & fire service agencies but also your County Prosecutor's Office.









- During business hours (0730 1530), requests should be made to Fire Investigations Office in Indianapolis at (317) 232-6435.
- After hours, on weekends and holidays, contact the Emergency Operations Center at (800) 669-7362. Choose option "1".









- Leave a call back number for the Incident Commander with the EOC.
 - Investigations Duty Officer will return the call.
 - Based on the answers to questions they ask, the investigator may be sent immediately or on the next business day.







- Incidents considered for an immediate response by an Investigator include:
 - Fires/Explosions involving serious injury or fatality.
 - Local officials have cause to believe the fire is incendiary or suspects are known.





Immediate Response Considered

- Any local, county, state or federal government property is involved.
- Property of a foreign government is involved.
- Large dollar loss to business, industry, or multiple family dwelling structure.















Immediate Response Considered

- The Incident Scene is not stable which could result in evidence destruction.
- Special circumstances exist that leads the Investigations Duty Officer to conclude that immediate response is crucial to a successful resolution.







- Situations where the response by the Investigator may be on the next business day include:
 - -Structure fires without injury or fatality.
 - Fires involving total property destruction without injury or fatality.







Vehicle fires without serious injury or fatality.

Wild land or brush fires without serious injury or

fatality.

Rubbish or outbuilding fires.







- If you believe you may need a Fire Marshal's Investigator, please call before leaving the scene.
- There could be legal issues regarding our ability to re-enter the scene.
- We may ask to have a "Consent To Search" form signed by someone with legal authority to grant permission.



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•	Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office Investigation Division
•	CASE #
•	CONSENT FOR FIRE/EXPLOSION SCENE EXAMINATION
•	I, have been requested to consent to an examination of my property located at (full description and address of property): for date(s) scene examination will be held)
•	This examination is being conducted as part of an investigation of the fire/explosion which occurred to this property on (date of fire)
•	I am the lawful <i>OCCUPANT</i> of this property. I have been advised of my constitutional rights to refuse such consent and to require that a search warrant be obtained prior to any examination. I have further been advised that if I do consent to an examination, any evidence found as a result of such examination can be seized and used against me in any court of law and that I may withdraw my consent at any time prior to the conclusion of the examination.
•	After having been advised of my constitutional rights as stated above, I hereby voluntarily waive those rights and consent to an examination and authorize the INDIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE, INDIANA STATE POLICE and the and any other fire official, investigator,
	or law enforcement officer participating in the investigation of this fire/explosion incident, to enter and search the property described above and the surrounding areas of the premises, including any other structures or vehicles situated on or adjacent to the property to examine and remove evidence relating to the fire/explosion.
•	I specifically give my consent and authorize these persons to inspect and remove any items of evidence which may be related, directly or indirectly, to the investigation of the circumstances and cause of the fire/explosion, and to submit the evidence for examination, analysis, and/or testing. I specifically give my consent and authorize these persons to use an accelerant, cadaver, and/or explosive detection canine (trained dog) to assist and participate in the search of the premises, surrounding areas, other structures and vehicles.
•	
•	(Occupant signature) (Date)
_	Witness: Witness: Witness: Witness: Date: Time:

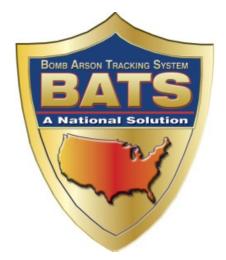
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BOMB & ARSON TRACKING SYSTEM















The Indiana Department of Homeland Security & ATF Are Pleased To Announce the Following Opportunity.

B.A.T.S.

Bomb & Arson Tracking System







BATS serves as the Nation's sole repository for information pertaining to bombing, explosives, & arson incidents, as established by statute and Attorney General Directive.





It is a secure, web-based case management and information sharing system designed exclusively for fire investigation units and bomb squads serving as the direct link to the U.S. Bomb Data Center (USBDC).









BATS includes a functionality that allows investigators to use the program as a case management system, allowing them to document their investigation in BATS, while maintaining operational security.







For more information, contact:

United States Bomb Data Center - ATF 99 New York Avenue, NE Room 8S295 Washington, DC 20226

Via Fax: 866-927-4570







If you or any of our public safety partners have questions, please call us at (317) 232-6435













